

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LISBON 03178 01 OF 02 221323Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EA-09 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 DHA-02 IO-13 /079 W  
-----221343Z 066563 /44

O P 221249Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1052  
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 3178

STATE PASS AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI  
USIA FOR IOP/M, IEU/MCLAUGHLIN, IBS/PE/HAUSEMAN

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SOPN, PO, US  
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - SOARES U.S. VISIT

1. CARTER-SOARES APRIL 21 WHITE HOUSE MEETING PREDICTABLY WAS TOP STORY ALL MEDIA APRIL 21-22. DOMINANT THEME WAS SOARES'S SATISFACTION AT MEETING CARTER AND REASSURANCES RECEIVED OF U.S. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH A NOTABLE SUB-THEME WAS THE CONTINUING DISCUSSION ON HOWS AND WHYS OF THE CONSORTIUM LOAN. CONSIDERABLE PLAY ALSO WAS GIVEN SOARES' INVITATION FOR CARTER TO VISIT PORTUGAL, AND TO THE PORTUGUESE OFFICIAL PARTY'S CONTACTS WITH U.S. CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS. USIA'S TELEVISION AND RADIO SUPPORT OF WASHINGTON COVERAGE RESULTED IN GOOD IMPACT THROUGH SATELLITED WHITE HOUSE IMAGES USED ON APRIL 21 PRIME-TIME TV NEWSCAST AND WELL FOCUSED AND COMPLETE NEWS REPORTS PLAYED ON STATE RADIO AND RADIO RENASCENCA.

2. SHEEN ON BILATERAL RELATIONS: MEDIA MADE CLEAR SOARES' PLEASURE AND SATISFACTION AT MEETING WITH CARTER. LEADING-  
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PAGE 02 LISBON 03178 01 OF 02 221323Z

CIRCULATION, PRO-GOP "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" APRIL 22 FRONT-PAGE CARRIED FOUR COLUMN PHOTO OF CARTER AND SOARES BOTH SMILING AND HEADLINE, "JIMMY CARTER: WE ARE VERY PROUD OF OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH PORTUGAL; U.S. PRESIDENT ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT OUR COUNTRY." DETAILED SIDEBAR BY PAPER'S CORRESPONDENT JOSE RICARDO SAID: "PRIME MINISTER MARIO SOARES SAW HIS ACTIVITIES WITH THE CARTER

ADMINISTRATION AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS  
HEADQUARTERD IN WASHINGTON CROWNED WITH SUCCESS IN TERMS  
OF ASSURING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE POLICIES OF THE  
PORTUGUESE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT...

MARIO SOARES TOLD 'DIARIO DE NOTICIAS' THAT HIS TALKS  
WITH THE U.S. PRESIDENT WENT 'VERY WELL, TOTALLY  
SURPASSING WHAT WE HAD EXPECTED' AND UNDERLINING THE  
'UNDERSTANDING, CORDIALITY AND TOTAL SUPPORT' WHICH  
HE FOUND ON THE PART OF JIMMY CARTER."

CENTER-RIGHT "O DIA" APRIL 22 PUBLISHED FRONT-PAGE  
ARTICLE HEADLINE, "CARTER AND MARIO SOARES TOGETHER IN  
THE WHITE HOUSE" AND PROMINENT BACK-PAGE CONTINUATION  
UNDER HEADLINE "PRESIDENT CARTER TELLS MARIO SOARES  
'WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ALLIANCE WITH PORTUGAL AND WANT  
TO STRENGTHEN IT'". REPORT BY EDITOR JACINTO BAPTISTA  
IN APRIL 21 EDITION OF HIS LEFTIST PAPER, "DIARIO  
POPULAR" SAID "MARIO SOARES...ATRIBUTES MAJOR POLITICAL  
IMPORTANCE TO THE FACT OF HIS MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE POWERFUL AMERICAN NATION BECAUSE HE IS ONE OF  
THE FIRST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT LEADERS GRANTED THAT  
PRIVILEGE BY CARTER..." COMMUNIST "O DIARIO" WAS ALONE  
IN SEEKING TO DOWNPLAY IMPORTANCE OF CARTER-SOARES  
VISIT. "O DIARIO" FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE OBSERVED WRYLY  
THAT WHITE HOUSE COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT FAILED TO MENTION  
CONSORTIUM LOAN AND CARTER'S ACCEPTANCE OF INVITATION  
TO VISIT PORTUGAL; ITS' BACK-PAGE HEADLINE ON MORE-  
COMPLETE REPORT WAS "NOTHING NEW IN MARIO SOARES'  
MEETING WITH CARTER."

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PAGE 03 LISBON 03178 01 OF 02 221323Z

3. CONSORTIUM LOAN: THESE PAGE ONE HEADLINES ILLUSTRATE  
ATTENTION GIVEN THIS ASPECT OF VISIT: APRIL 21 CENTER-LEFT  
"A CAPITAL" -- "SOARES MEETING WITH CARTER" LOAN TO  
PORTUGAL GUARANTEED", APRIL 21 CENTRIST "JORNAL NOVO" --  
"SOARES TODAY WITH CARTER: BILLION-AND-HALF-DOLLAR-LOAN  
TO PORTUGAL GUARANTEED"; WEEKLY RIGHTIST NEWSPAPER  
"O PAIS" -- "MARIO SOARES: LOAN TO PORTUGAL IS SOLID."  
"O PAIS" QUOTED SOARES AS TELLING THAT PAPER "HE  
UNDERSTOOD THE MANNER IN WHICH THE LOAN WOULD BE CARRIED  
OUT HAD NOT BEEN DEFINED AS YET, BUT AS FOR ITS  
COMPLETION THERE ARE NO DOUBTS, AND THAT IT WILL BE  
FINALIZED SHORTLY." THAT VIEWPOINT WAS ECHOED IN  
MOST REPORTS. SOME PAPERS CARRIED FURTHER NOTE ALONG  
LINES OF THIS PARAGRAPH FROM "A CAPITAL": "IT IS NOT  
COMPLETELY DEFINED YET EXACTLY HOW THE MONEY WILL  
REACH LISBON: IF THROUGH A CONSORTIUM OR THROUGH ACTION  
OF THE IMF AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. TWO  
DIFFERENT POSITIONS ARE UNDER DISCUSSION -- THAT OF  
THE U.S. AND OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY --

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PAGE 01 LISBON 03178 02 OF 02 221336Z  
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
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NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EA-09 OMB-01  
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-----221341Z 066876 /44

O P 221249Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1053  
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 3178

STATE PASS AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI  
USIA FOR IOP/M, IEU/MCLAUGHLIN, IBS/PE/HAUSEMAN

WITH PORTUGAL WILLING TO SERVE AS AN INTERMEDIARY  
BETWEEN BOTH..." WEEKLY PRO-PSD NEWSPAPER "ESPRESSO",  
WHICH HAS CONSISTENTLY STATED ITS DOUBTS  
ABOUT THE CONSORTIUM, IN ITS APRIL 22 EDITION SAID  
"IT SEEMS THE FORMAL CONSTITUTION OF A CONSORTIUM...  
HAS BEEN PUT ASIDE. THE AMERICANS CONTINUE WILLING  
TO CONTRIBUTE WITH 40 PERCENT (OF A BILLION AND A  
HALF DOLLARS) WHICH THEY HAVE OFFERED. BEYOND THE  
POSITIONS OF OTHER POTENTIALLY INVOLVED COUNTRIES  
(NORWAY FAVORABLE AND HOLLAND AND FRANCE UNFAVORABLE),  
THE TWO OTHER PRINCIPAL PARTNERS, WEST GERMANY AND  
JAPAN, ARE OFFERING SOME RESISTANCE. THE GERMANS  
DO NOT WANT TO ASSUME A LONG-TERM BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITY  
AND DO NOT WANT TO CONCEDE TO THE U.S. LEADERSHIP OF  
A GROUP OF COUNTRIES HELPING PORTUGAL. THE JAPANESE  
CONTENTEND THEY HAVE A PRIORITY FINANCIALLY TO ASSIST  
COUNTRIES IN THEIR GEOGRAPHIC ZONE AND THAT THEY HAVE  
FEW CONTACTS WITH PORTUGAL ... WILL ALL OF THIS, THE  
ISSUE OF THE LOAN WILL END UP WITH A POLITICAL SOLUTION ...  
PROBABLY WITH CONTINUED PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF A CONSORTIUM  
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 LISBON 03178 02 OF 02 221336Z

SO THAT CARTER WILL HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH THE U.S. SENATE AND SOARES WILL SAVE FACE. IN FACT, THERE MAY BE PARALLEL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS (FOR A LOAN OR LOANS) AND NO JOINT PROJECT..."

ANALYSIS BY CORRESPONDENT CACERES MONTEIRO OF LEFTIST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER "O JORNAL" DATED APRIL 22 SIMILARLY CITED REPORTED JAPANESE AND GERMAN VIEWPOINTS, GIVING SPECIAL EMPHASIS TO CONCEPT OF GREATER INFLUENCE IN LOAN CONSORTIUM BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. FACT THAT CONSORTIUM HAS NOT FALLEN TOGETHER YET IS DUE TO "THE NOT-VERY-ABLE AND PATERNAL WAY IN WHICH THE AMERICANS HAVE VIEWED PARTICIPATION OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES," ACCORDING TO MONTEIRO.

4. LAJES BASE AGREEMENT: NEARLY ALL MEDIA REPORTED THAT SOARES PARTY TOUCHED LIGHTLY ON ISSUE IN TALKS WITH CARTER ADMINISTRATION. "EXPRESSO" SAID "LITTLE OR NOTHING WAS MOVED FORWARD... THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL BE RETROACTIVE TO THE MOMENT THE PREVIOUS ONE EXPIRED AND IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE BASE WILL CONTINUE TO BE AMERICAN, AVAILABLE TO NATO USE ONLY AS ESTABLISHED BY THE ATLANTIC TREATY..."

5. CONTACTS ON THE HILL: "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" APRIL 22 REPORT CITED SOARES' PARTY CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS AND SAID, "NATURALLY, THE IMPORTANCE IS UNDERSTOOD OF THE PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE SENATE, IN PARTICULAR, THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOUND TO BE "ENCOURAGING" MEASURES THE GOP IS NOW TAKING ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT "THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEAL TO ACCOMPLISH."

6. SOARES' HUMAN-RIGHTS AWARD: "O JORNAL" REPORTER COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S REMARKS AT N.Y. CEREMONY. HE SAID STATEMENTS WERE OF "CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCE." BUT HE CRITICIZED THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LISBON 03178 02 OF 02 221336Z

SETTING OF THE AWARD AS A "COCKTAIL WITHOUT APPROPRIATE ATMOSPHERE AND DIGNITY." REPORTER SAID A CEREMONY "CONSECRATING HUMAN RIGHTS DESERVES A MORE SOBER SETTING..."

7. PORTUGAL AND CHINA: CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION CONTINUED TO BE GIVEN MEDEIROS FERREIRA'S U.N. MEETING WITH PEKING AMBASSADOR. LEAD FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE IN APRIL 21 "DIARIO POPULAR" WAS "PORTUGAL ON WAY TO ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA."

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SOPN, PO, US, (SOARES, MARIO), (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009